



**METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION**

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Memorandum

TO: Administration Committee

DATE: June 6, 2007

FR: Executive Director

W.I.:

RE: Caltrans / MTC Cooperative Agreement: Cost Reimbursement for Emergency Services

Following the April 29 collapse of two freeway connectors at the Interstate 80/580/880 interchange (MacArthur Maze), many of the region's transportation agencies took actions to respond to the resulting emergency and incurred additional expenses that, under a proposed agreement with Caltrans, are eligible for state reimbursement. We are seeking reimbursement of expenses totaling \$2.8 million, as follows:

1. Governor Schwarzenegger authorized a free transit day on Monday, April 30. This resulted in fare revenue loss of approximately \$2.2 million, based on the experience of a typical Spare the Air free transit day.
2. Immediately following the event, a member of the region's transit agencies supplemented their regular weekday service levels. BART extended service hours and ran longer trains throughout the day. AC Transit, Muni, WestCAT and Vallejo provided standby service to respond to additional demand in the transbay corridor. The Alameda-Oakland, Golden Gate and Vallejo ferries deployed additional vessels. LAVTA provided additional shuttle services to and from BART. With the exception of BART, most transit agencies discontinued their augmented service by the end of the first week but remained ready to deploy additional services as needed. The estimated expense for all supplemental service is \$430,000.
3. The 511 Program incurred additional contractual expenses of approximately \$220,000 related to (1) extra staffing for the Traveler Information Center, (2) support of special web pages and phone services to ensure regular updates to information on transportation alternatives, (3) the installation of traffic data collection equipment on designated detour routes, and (4) Rideshare Program staff expenses to respond to increased customer calls and emails, coordination with employers and information about the status of park and ride facilities.
4. Finally, the Freeway Service Patrol deployed tow services incurred \$20,000 in added expenses to provide quick clearance of stalled vehicles on detour routes affecting local neighborhoods.

Staff is currently negotiating the provisions of a cooperative agreement with Caltrans under which Caltrans would have MTC coordinate the reimbursement of funds to the transit agencies, 511 and SAFE. While as of this date the details of the cooperative agreement have not been finalized, I am seeking your authorization to execute the agreement in order to initiate the reimbursement process as quickly as possible in the current fiscal year. Staff will provide further details at your meeting on June 12.

Steve Heminger

SH: AF

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